

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for coating a medical device comprising:
a coating chamber;
a vibration source, the vibration source capable of suspending a medical device
positioned in the coating chamber; and
a coating source, the coating source positioned to introduce coating into the coating
chamber,

wherein the coating source includes a nozzle coupled to a supply of coating,
wherein the vibration source is positioned below a screen,

~~The apparatus of claim 5~~

wherein the vibration source is capable of generating pressure waves of compressible fluid containing enough energy to lift a medical device located on the screen away from the screen.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for coating a medical device comprising:
a coating chamber;
a vibration source, the vibration source capable of suspending a medical device
positioned in the coating chamber; and
a coating source, the coating source positioned to introduce coating into the coating
chamber;

wherein the coating source includes a nozzle coupled to a supply of coating.

The apparatus of claim 4

wherein the nozzle is positioned beneath the vibration source.

8. (Cancelled)

9. - 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:
a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a patient;
a source of therapeutic coating having an exit point in fluid communication with the coating area;
a screen positioned at the bottom of the coating area; and
means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the coating area is a confined space having an entrance and an exit,

the conveyor belt configured to urge a medical implant devicee in the coating area away from the entrance of the confined space and towards the exit of the confined space.

29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:
a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a patient;
a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area; and
a source of therapeutic coating having an exit point in fluid communication with the coating area;
wherein the vibration source is a moving conveyor belt.

30.-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a nozzle.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the means for forcing the medical implants to move above the screen during the coating process comprises a vibration source positioned beneath the coating area and a nozzle.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:
a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a
patient;

means for supplying a therapeutic coating into the coating area; and
means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process,

The apparatus of claim 36

wherein the means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process comprises a nozzle.

40. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for coating a medical implant comprising:
a coating area sized to accept medical implants for implantation within the body of a
patient;
means for supplying a therapeutic coating into the coating area; and
means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process

~~The apparatus of claim 36~~

wherein the means for suspending the medical implants in the coating area during the coating process comprises a vibration structure and a nozzle.

41. (Canceled)